

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8-30, and 32-44 were pending and rejected. Portions of the specifications were objected. In this response, no claim has been canceled. Claims 1-6, 8-15, 22-23, 29-30, 33, 35, 39, and 42 have been amended. Portions of the specification have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Abstract and portions of the specification are objected. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the objections have been overcome.

Claims 1-5, 8-30, 32-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by International Publication Number WO 97/46956 by RAO et al ("Rao"). In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6, 8-30, and 32-44 include limitations that are not disclosed by Rao. Specifically, independent claim 1 recites as follows:

1. A system comprising:
a plurality of web servers running the distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) enabled hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) coupled to the internet; and
a plurality of personal computers coupled to the internet, each personal computer comprising a file system plug-in communicatively coupled to a file system of an operating system that forwards file system requests involving file systems stored on one of the plurality of web servers to a network access application program on the personal computer that sends the file system requests as a WebDAV request to an appropriate web server, wherein the file system requests include a filename of a file being accessed and wherein if the filename includes one or more characters that are unrecognized by the web server, the network access application program converts the unrecognized characters of the filename into one or more escape sequences recognizable by the web server prior to transmitting the converted file system requests to the web server, the one or more escape sequences representing the one or more unrecognizable characters.

(Emphasis added)

Independent claim 1 includes limitations that an ordinary file system request is converted to a WebDAV compatible request which is transmitted to a WebDAV enabled Web

server for accessing a remote file. Prior to accessing the remote file, any character that is not recognizable by the remote server may be converted into an escape sequence recognizable by the remote server. The above limitations are absent from Rao.

Specifically, Rao fails to disclose using a WebDAV compatible communication protocol to access remote file system of a WebDAV enabled server. Although Rao discloses using FTP and HTTP protocols as shown in Figure 1 of Rao, these protocols are not the same as WebDAV protocols. There is no mention of WebDAV within Rao.

In addition, Rao also fails to disclose converting the unrecognizable characters of the requests into an escape sequence which is recognizable by a web server. Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Rao.

Similarly, independent claims 6, 15, 23, 30, 39, and 42 include limitations which distinguish the claims from Rao. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, independent claims 6, 15, 23, 30, 39, and 42 are not anticipated by Rao.

Given that dependent claims 2-5, 8-14, 16-22, 24-29, 32-38, 40-41, and 43-44 depend from one of the above independent claims, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 8-14, 16-22, 24-29, 32-38, 40-41, and 43-44 are not anticipated by Rao. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rao. Claim 5 depends from independent claim 1. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claim 5 is patentable over Rao. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.


In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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Kevin G. Shao
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 45,095

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300